

being pointed to by a link in one or more of the linking documents;

[for each linked document pointed to by a link in one or more of the plurality of linked documents,] assigning a [rank] score to each of the linked [document that is dependent] documents based on [ranks] scores of the one or more [of the plurality of linked] linking documents[, wherein each of the ranks of the one or more of the plurality of linked documents are adjusted by a weight]; and

processing the [plurality of] linked documents according to their [rank] scores.

<sup>2</sup>  
19. (Amended) The method of claim <sup>1</sup>18, wherein the assigning includes:  
identifying a weighting factor for each of the linking documents, the [weight is]  
weighting factor being dependent on the number of links [in] to the one or more [of the  
plurality of linked] linking documents, and  
adjusting the score of each of the one or more linking documents based on the  
identified weighting factor.

<sup>3</sup>  
20. (Amended) The method of claim <sup>1</sup>18, wherein the assigning includes:  
identifying a weighting factor for each of the linking documents, the [weight is]  
weighting factor being dependent on an estimation of a probability that a [linked] linking  
document will be accessed, and  
adjusting the score of each of the one or more linking documents based on the  
identified weighting factor.

<sup>4</sup>  
21. (Amended) The method of claim <sup>1</sup>18, wherein the assigning includes:

identifying a weighting factor for each of the linking documents, the [weight is]  
weighting factor being dependent on the URL, host, domain, author, institution, or last  
update time of the one or more [plurality of linked] linking documents, and  
adjusting the score of each of the one or more linking documents based on the  
identified weighting factor.

22. (Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the assigning includes:  
identifying a weighting factor for each of the linking documents, the [weight is]  
weighting factor being dependent on whether the one or more [plurality of linked] linking  
documents are selected documents or roots, and  
adjusting the score of each of the one or more linking documents based on the  
identified weighting factor.

23. (Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the assigning includes:  
identifying a weighting factor for each of the linking documents, the [weight is]  
weighting factor being dependent on the importance, visibility or textual emphasis of the  
links in the [plurality of linked] one or more linking documents, and  
adjusting the score of each of the one or more linking documents based on the  
identified weighting factor.

24. (Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the assigning includes:  
identifying a weighting factor for each of the linking documents, the [weight is]  
weighting factor being dependent on a particular user's preferences, the rate at which

users access the one or more [plurality of linked] linking documents, or the importance of the one or more [plurality of linked] linking documents, and

adjusting the score of each of the one or more linking documents based on the identified weighting factor.

25. (Twice amended) A computer implemented method of [ranking] determining a score for a plurality of linked documents, comprising:

obtaining a plurality of linked documents;

selecting one of the linked documents;

[for each linked document pointed to by a link in one or more of the plurality of linked documents,] assigning a [rank to] score to the [linked] selected document that is dependent on [ranks] scores of [the one or more of the plurality of linked] documents that link to the selected document; and

processing the [plurality of] linked documents according to their [rank] scores[, wherein the processing includes displaying links to the plurality of linked documents as results from a search].

28. (Twice amended) A computer implemented method of ranking a plurality of linked documents, comprising:

obtaining a plurality of [linked] documents, at least some of the documents being linked documents and at least some of the documents being linking documents, at least some of the linking documents also being linked documents, each of the linked documents being pointed to by a link in one or more of the linking documents;

generating an initial estimate of [the] a rank [of] for each of the [one or more plurality of] linked documents;

updating the estimate of the rank for each of the [one or more plurality of] linked documents [utilizing estimates of] using ranks for [linked] the one or more linking documents [that include a link to the linked document;

for each linked document pointed to by a link in one or more of the plurality of linked documents, assigning a rank to the linked document that is dependent on ranks of the one or more of the plurality of linked documents]; and

processing the [plurality of] linked documents according to their updated ranks [rank].

Please add new claims 38-45.

-- ~~38.~~ <sup>1</sup> The method of claim ~~18~~, wherein the processing includes:  
displaying links to the linked documents as a directory listing.

<sup>13</sup> ~~39.~~ The method of claim ~~18~~, wherein the processing includes:  
displaying links to the linked documents, and  
displaying annotations representing the score of each of the linked documents.

<sup>14</sup> ~~40.~~ The method of claim ~~39~~, wherein the annotations are bars, icons, or text.

<sup>15</sup> ~~41.~~ The method of claim ~~18~~, further comprising:  
processing the linked documents based on textual matching.

<sup>16</sup>  
~~42.~~ The method of claim <sup>15</sup>~~41~~, wherein the textual matching includes matching anchor text associated with the links.

<sup>17</sup>  
~~43.~~ The method of claim <sup>1</sup>~~18~~, further comprising:  
processing the linked documents based on groupings of the linked documents.

<sup>18</sup>  
~~44.~~ A computer-readable medium that stores instructions executable by one or more processing devices to perform a method for determining scores for a plurality of linked documents, comprising:

<sup>1</sup>  
~~45.~~ instructions for obtaining a plurality of documents, at least some of the documents being linked documents, at least some of the documents being linking documents, and at least some of the documents being both linked documents and linking documents, each of the linked documents being pointed to by a link in one or more of the linking documents;

instructions for determining a score for each of the linked documents based on scores for the one or more linking documents; and

instructions for processing the linked documents according to their scores.

<sup>19</sup>  
~~45.~~ A computer-readable medium that stores instructions executable by one or more processors to perform a method for scoring documents, comprising:

instructions for searching a plurality of documents, at least some of the documents being linked documents and at least some of the documents being linking documents, at least some of the linking documents also being linked documents, each of the linked documents being pointed to by a link in one or more of the linking documents;